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Mountain CAP of WV, Inc. Secures Funding to Assist Businesses in 11-County Area

Morgantown, WV – February 6, 2006: State Director Robert M. Steptoe, III, today announced that **Rural Development** approved a Rural Business Enterprise Grant of \$90,450 for Mountain CAP of West Virginia, Inc., Upshur County, WV.

Rural Development funds will be used to expand an existing revolving loan fund and provide technical assistance and training to loan recipients.

Mountain CAP of WV, Inc. covers an 11-county area consisting of Barbour, Braxton, Clay, Fayette, Gilmer, Lewis, Nicholas, Randolph, Roane, Upshur and Webster.

"The project is expected to assist 10 businesses and create 26 jobs," stated Steptoe.

Rural Development serves as the lead Federal entity for rural development needs and administers program assistance through its rural housing programs, rural business programs, and rural utilities programs. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Further information on USDA Rural Development may be obtained by visiting USDA's web site at http://www.rurdev.usda.gov. In West Virginia, call 1-800-295-8228 to be put in touch with the appropriate personnel serving your county. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202.720.2600 (voice and TDD).

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